

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1-27 were examined and rejected. By way of this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant hereby amends claims 1, 12, 18, 20, and 24. In view of the Remarks submitted herewith, Applicant believes that claims 1-27 in present form are in condition for allowance.

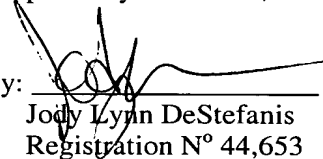
In the December 2003 Office Action, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Quigley (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0119271). Claims 6-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 also in view of Quigley.

However, in contrast to Quigley, the present invention transmits signals from multiple sensors measuring different environmental effects using a common energy conductor or telemetry. There is no motivation or suggestion in Quigley to use a common telemetry to transmit signals outputted from different sensors responding to different environmental effects.

Applicants assert that the claims, as presently amended, are distinguishable over the Quigley reference. Accordingly, the cited reference does not anticipate or make obvious the present invention, either alone or in combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

While Applicant believes that no fees are due at this time, in the event that a fee is due in connection with this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0615.

Respectfully submitted,

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